



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 15, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Administrative Division, Waterfront Department

SUBJECT: Mooring Regulations In The Harbor District

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Establishing Rules and Regulations for Issuing Mooring Permits in the City of Santa Barbara Mooring Area, Setting Minimum Specifications for Installing, Inspecting, and Repairing Such Moorings, and Repealing Resolution No. 06-027.

BACKGROUND:

In April 2006, City Council adopted an ordinance and associated resolutions providing important tools to reduce environmental, fiscal and public safety impacts from beached or sunken vessels east of Stearns Wharf. Included among those tools was establishment of the City-permitted and regulated East Beach Mooring Area. Resolution 06-027, also adopted, provided a framework for issuing mooring permits and deploying and inspecting the moorings.

DISCUSSION:

Currently, East Beach Mooring Permittees are required to renew their permits annually and have a City-approved mooring inspector conduct annual maintenance and repair on their moorings. Although staff presses for timely collection of the \$250 annual permit fee, it has experienced difficulty gaining timely compliance with annual mooring inspections, due to tardiness on permittees' behalf, inclement weather and sea-conditions at various times of the year (especially winter), and variability in inspectors' busy schedules. In February 2009, staff met with several mooring inspectors and it was jointly agreed that establishing a "window" for annual inspections into the late summer (pre-winter) months of August and September would benefit inspectors, permittees and Waterfront administrative staff alike. The draft resolution reflects that change.

The draft resolution also removes language permitting the initial establishment of a specified list of City-certified contractors, which was completed in 2006. The list is now managed in an ongoing fashion by Waterfront Department staff and is amended as necessary.

CONCLUSION:

By taking the recommended actions, Council would allow mooring permittees and inspectors to better plan for the inspections during times of generally good weather (late summer/early fall) instead of enduring delays and completing inspections at random times throughout the year. In addition, staff could plan to review inspection results during the same time frame, reducing ongoing administrative impacts currently faced throughout the year.

PREPARED BY: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

SUBMITTED BY: John N. Bridley, Waterfront Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office